

CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method for determining a billing rate of a mobile telecommunications connections associated with a mobile telecommunications unit (MU), comprising the steps of:

determining whether a location of the MU is inside or outside a predetermined subsidized zone;

responsive to a determination that the location of the MU is inside the subsidized zone, adjusting the billing rate for the telecommunications connection to a first predetermined billing rate; and

responsive to a determination that the MU is outside the predetermined subsidized zone, adjusting the billing rate for the telecommunications connection to a second predetermined billing rate.

1 2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first predetermined billing  
2 rate is less than the second predetermined billing rate.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the location is defined by latitude and  
2 longitude.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the location is determined by a Global  
2 Positioning System (GPS).

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the location is defined by Universal  
2 Transverse Mercator (UTM) numbers.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein information corresponding to the  
2 predetermined subsidized zone is stored in a database.

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1 7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the predetermined subsidized  
2 zone information comprises a time period, and wherein the billing rate is reduced when the  
3 telecommunications connection occurred at least in part during the time period.

1 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined subsidized  
2 zone is defined by a geographical point and a radius.

1 9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the predetermined subsidized  
2 zone is associated with a proximity to a commercial establishment and the commercial  
3 establishment pays the first predetermined billing rate.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined subsidized zone is one  
2 of a plurality of predetermined subsidized zones, each associated with a proximity to a different  
3 commercial establishment.

1 11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the standard billing rate is  
2 reduced by a first amount when the location of the MU is within a first predetermined subsidized  
3 zone, and the billing rate is reduced by a second amount when the location of the MU is within a  
4 second predetermined subsidized zone.

1 12. (Previously presented) A system for determining a billing rate of a mobile  
2 telecommunications connection associated with a mobile telecommunications unit (MU),  
3 comprising:

4 a processor;

5 memory for storing computer readable instructions that, when executed by the  
6 processor, cause the system to perform the operations of:

7 determining whether a location of the MU is inside or outside a  
8 predetermined subsidized zone;

9 responsive to a determination that the location of the MU is inside the

10 predetermined subsidized zone, adjusting the billing rate for the

11 telecommunications connection to a first predetermined billing rate;  
12 and  
13 responsive to a determination that the MU is outside the predetermined  
14 subsidized zone, adjusting the billing rate for the telecommunications  
15 connection to a second predetermined billing rate.

1 13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the first predetermined  
2 billing rate is less than the second predetermined billing rate.

1 14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the location is defined by latitude and  
2 longitude.

1 15. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the location is determined by a Global  
2 Positioning System (GPS).

1 16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the location is defined by Universal  
2 Transverse Mercator (UTM) numbers.

1 17. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein information corresponding to the  
2 predetermined subsidized zone is stored in a database.

1 18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the predetermined subsidized  
2 zone information comprises a time period, and wherein the billing rate is reduced when the  
3 telecommunications connection occurred at least in part during the time period.

1 19. (Previously presented) The system of claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the predetermined  
2 subsidized zone is defined by a geographical point and a radius.

1 20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined subsidized  
2 zone is associated with a proximity to a commercial establishment and the commercial  
3 establishment pays the first predetermined billing rate.

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1 21. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined subsidized zone is one  
2 of a plurality of predetermined subsidized zones, each associated with a proximity to a different  
3 commercial establishment.

1 22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the standard billing rate is  
2 reduced by a first amount when the location of the MU is within a first predetermined subsidized  
3 zone, and the billing rate is reduced by a second amount when the location of the MU is within a  
4 second predetermined subsidized zone.

1 23. (Previously presented) A computer program product for determining a billing rate of  
2 a mobile telecommunications connection associated with a mobile telecommunications unit  
3 (MU) comprising a computer-readable medium containing computer program code for  
4 performing the operations of:

5 determining whether a location of the MU is inside or outside a predetermined  
6 subsidized zone;

7 responsive to a determination that the location of the MU is inside the predetermined  
8 subsidized zone, adjusting the billing rate for the telecommunications  
9 connection to a first predetermined billing rate; and

10 responsive to a determination that the MU is outside the predetermined subsidized  
11 zone, adjusting the billing rate for the telecommunications connection to a  
12 second predetermined billing rate.

1 24. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the first  
2 predetermined billing rate is less than the second predetermined billing rate.

1 25. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the  
2 location is defined by latitude and longitude.

1 26. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the  
2 location is determined by a Global Positioning System (GPS).

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1 27. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the  
2 location is defined by Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) numbers.

1 28. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein  
2 information corresponding to the predetermined subsidized zone is stored in a database.

1 29. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the  
2 predetermined subsidized zone information comprises a time period, wherein the billing rate is  
3 reduced when the telecommunications connection occurred at least in part during the time  
4 period.

1 30. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the  
2 predetermined subsidized zone is defined by a geographical point and a radius.

1 31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the predetermined subsidized  
2 zone is associated with a proximity to a commercial establishment and the commercial  
3 establishment pays the first predetermined billing rate.

1 32. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the  
2 predetermined subsidized zone is one of a plurality of predetermined subsidized zones, each  
3 associated with a proximity to a different commercial establishment.

1 33. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the  
2 billing rate is reduced by a first amount when the location of the MU is within a first  
3 predetermined subsidized zone, and the billing rate is reduced by a second amount when the  
4 location of the MU is within a second predetermined subsidized zone.

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